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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,728	03/30/2001	Shunichi Seki	109101	4739

25944 7590 10/02/2003

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EXAMINER	
LOUIE, WAI SING	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2814	

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/820,728	SEKI ET AL.	
	Examin r	Art Unit	
	Wai-Sing Louie	2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cov r sheet with th correspondenc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 July 2003* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,6 and 9-14* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,6 and 9-14* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 6, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tang et al. (US 6,384,529).

With regard to claims 1 and 10, Tang et al. disclose an organic electroluminescent display panel (col. 4, line 59 to col. 10, line 13 and fig. 6) comprising:

- A hole injection/transportation layer 60 having a concave surface and spread within the film formation region 37 (col. 6, line 20 and fig. 2 and 6);
- A light-emitting layer 60 disposed above the hole injection/transportation layer and having a concave surface and spread above the hole injection/transportation layer (col. 6, lines 21-22 and fig. 6);
- A bank 54 and 56 defining the film formation region (fig. 3) abutting on the edges of the hole injection/transportation layer and the light-emitting layer to define film formation regions of the hole injection/transportation layer and the light-emitting layer (fig. 4), the film formation region of the light-emitting layer covering the

film formation region of the hole injection/transportation layer (col. 6, lines 1-13 and fig. 6).

With regard to claim 6, Burrows et al. disclose the hole transportation layer and the light-emitting layer 60 are deposed between a cathode 72 and an anode 36, and where light emitted by the light-emitting layer 60 is output through the cathode 72 (col. 6, lines 14-18).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tang et al. (US 6,384,529) in view of Dawson et al. (US 6,054,356).

With regard to claims 9 and 12, Tang et al. disclose a passivation layer 46 is deposited on electrical addressing element 26 (col. 5, lines 47-50 and fig. 2), but do not disclose the bank has a rounded shape. However, Dawson et al. disclose a dielectric layer deposited on the structure would form a concave shaped profile (Dawson col. 6, lines 10-18 and fig. 3). Dawson et al. teach the meniscus shape (rounded corners) of the dielectric layer is due the viscosity (surface tension) of the dielectric material (Dawson col. 6, lines 17-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious for the one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Tang's device with the teaching of Dawson et al. to have the meniscus shape to define the film formation region it is because the viscosity of the dielectric material.

With regard to claim 11, Tang et al. do not disclose the shapes of the first and second film formation regions are quadrilateral. However, fig. 6 shows the film formation region has two walls, i.e. wall 54 and 56. Tang et al. disclose the organic EL is a matrix array of display panel (col. 3, lines 41-45). Therefore, each organic EL cell must have 4 walls (quadrilateral).

With regard to claims 13-14, Tang et al. disclose the wall of the bank has a slope to define the film formation region of the light-emitting layer 60 being larger in the top area than the bottom, where the hole injection/transportation layer (fig. 3).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wai-Sing Louie whose telephone number is (703) 305-0474. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy can be reached on (703) 308-4918. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Wsl
September 25, 2003

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